## \*FORM VI.C. ACCESS FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT

1. How much does the Applicant plan to contribute for and in support of facilities or equipment for access (1) above and beyond any costs associated with constructing the cable system; and (2) above and beyond the franchise fee?

Comcast will make an ongoing contribution for PEG capital equipment and facilities of \$.25 per subscriber per month, increasing by \$.05 per subscriber per month on each fifth anniversary of the franchise term.

Additionally, Comcast has proposed eliminating the programming currently seen on Channels 27 and 29 and combining the programming on Channels 18 and 19 on a single shared channel (see Form VI.A.). In order to assist the users of those channels in their transition to the Internet or other formats, Comcast proposes a one-time technology grant in the amount of \$75,000, to be administered by the County. Comcast would also provide the affected users with a reasonable amount of advertising availabilities on the cable system for informing the public about the changes and for promoting the users' websites.

## 2. With respect to Channel 28:

a. Describe any access facility or facilities proposed by the applicant including: location; size (square footage); proposed layout of and type of work areas within a facility (i.e., studio, control room, editing suites, office space, etc.); availability of parking; handicapped accessibility; ability to expand in the future, if needed; and any other information which will clearly and concisely describe the facility or facilities proposed for any PEG use by the Applicant.

Comcast has no legal obligation to operate the Reston Community Television (RCT) channel, and may at some point determine not to continue its operation. As more fully set forth in the Memorandum on Legal Issues, the RFRP's requirement that Comcast actively manage the RCT channel throughout the franchise term is a content-based restriction that forces Comcast to engage in speech in violation of its First Amendment rights.

However, Comcast intends to continue to operate the RCT channel and plans to upgrade the studio facility in Reston, up to a cost of \$150,000. Comcast feels that at

<sup>\*</sup> The Memorandum on Legal Issues submitted as part of the Proposal sets forth the legal principles governing Comcast's response to this Form.

some point it may be appropriate to separate the traditional functions of local origination and public access, continuing to operate the channel as local origination, while turning the administration of public access over to a new or existing independent entity. However, at this time it is prepared to continue to operate Reston Community Television as a hybrid service, with no current plan to change the level of staffing. If additional staffing or operational support becomes necessary, then the County will have to identify a separate source of funding.

b. Describe any video equipment packages which the Applicant proposes to provide for PEG purposes. The Applicant must set forth the proposed capital equipment budget for the initial equipment package and a budget outlining the replacement schedule for equipment during the term of the franchise.

Refer to response in Question 2(a)

3. When would the support identified above be provided?

The contribution proposed in Section VI.C. 1., would be paid quarterly at the same time that the company makes its quarterly franchise fee payment.

4. Describe the conditions under which the Applicant would agree to be bound to provide additional channels, facilities or equipment for PEG use.

With respect to additional channels, see our response to Form VI.A.1. With respect to facilities or equipment, see our response to Form VI.C.1.